

ANNUAL MEETING of ALEPPO TEMPLE

A.A.O.N.M.S.

Mechanics Building,

Boston, Mass., Jan. 25, 1946

Lucius W. Richardson

Shorthand Reporter

1004 Barristers Hall

Boston, Mass.

ANNUAL MEETING of Aleppo Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., held at
Mechanics Building, Boston, Mass., Friday, January
25, 1946, at 7 p.m., Potentate Arthur A. Sondheim,
Presiding.

The ILLUSTRIOUS POTENTATE. Nobles, I will ask you
to rise while we have the National Anthem.

Nobles, kindly keep standing. You will repeat after me
the oath or pledge of allegiance.

You may be seated.

Nobles, we have some distinguished visitors from other
temples, and they will now be received.

(?) Illustrious Potentate, it is a great pleasure
for me to present to you Representative Charles H. Barnard, of
the General Court of New Hampshire, recently returned from over-
seas duty, and one who will be inducted as Potentate of Bektash
Temple within the next seven days.

The POTENTATE. Charlie, it is a real pleasure to me
to receive you as Illustrious Potentate of Bektash Temple. There
has been an interchange of visits between Aleppo Temple and
your temple, so you can realize how much I appreciate your
coming here and how pleased I am to see you become Potentate
of Bektash Temple.

Noble BARNARD. It is a real delight for me to be here and to enjoy the proverbial hospitality of Aleppo Temple. Some three years ago we were Assistant Rabbans together. Since that time you have become Potentate of this great Temple, while my official capacity is still Chief Rabban; not because of any fault of my own, but because I wore a military uniform for two years. Thank you very much for your cordial reception of me tonight.

(?) The next is a man who is perhaps fortunate to be alive, because he is Major King of the Marine Corps, a veteran of both World War I and World War II. He is the newly elected Potentate of Anah Temple, of Bangor, Maine.

The POTENTATE, Morris, it is a rare pleasure to see you here. In addition, I want to tell you, Nobles, that at this time last year he was also the Potentate of Anah Temple. He is also one of the leading dentists up there in Bangor, and if you are ever up there and tell him you are a Noble of Aleppo Temple, I am sure he will only charge you half of the regular price.

Noble KING. Thank you, Arthur. It is an honor to be here and at this time I would like to present to you the Chief Rabban of Anah Temple, Edwin L. Coburn. It becomes my duty at this time to bring to the membership of Aleppo Temple the greetings of Anah Temple.

It is an honor to be here tonight to pay homage to your
 Illustrious Potentate. He has had a most successful and
 most outstanding year, and we extend to him our most sincere
 congratulations, and also wish the incoming Potentate a most
 enjoyable and prosperous year. Thank you very much.

Past Potentate ROBERT G. WILSON. Illustrious Potentate,
 it is a distinct pleasure for me at this time to present to
 you and through you to the Nobles of Aleppo Temple, Frank H.
 Wilson, Most Eminent Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights
 Templars and the attendant orders of Massachusetts and Rhode
 Island.

The POTENTATE. It is mighty fine to have you here and
 to see you as the head of the Grand Commandery of Knights
 Templars of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. I want you to
 know that you stand very high in the estimation of the Nobles
 of Aleppo Temple, and that we are honored by your presence here
 tonight.

GRAND COMMANDER WILSON.

^Illustrious Potentate and Nobles: It certainly is a
 very extreme pleasure to me to be here and receive this
 knightly courtesy from the Illustrious Potentate, ^{and} from your
 Past Potentate, who nominated me for the high office I hold,
 as Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts
 and Rhode Island.

In behalf of the 12,000 Sir Knights, I extend to you
 knightly courtesy and offer my personal congratulations on the

fine year you have had. May you live long and prosper, Arthur.
Thank you.

The POTENTATE. Nobles, will you kindly rise.

(?) Illustrious Potentate. First I want
to assure you of my great appreciation of the honor which you
have conferred on me in allowing me the privilege of presenting
not only a member of Aleppo Temple, but one who rules our
fraternity in the Grand Jurisdiction of Massachusetts. I have
the very great pleasure of presenting to you Samuel H. Wragg,
Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of Massachusetts.

The POTENTATE. Honored Sir, this is something that I
have been looking forward to for some time, to have the extreme
pleasure of receiving the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons
in this grand old jurisdiction of Massachusetts.

Our present Grand Master is one of the most affable and
lovable men that I think it has ever been my pleasure to come
in contact with. He has the respect and honor of every Mason
in Massachusetts, and I do sincerely hope that every Noble
who is here tonight will have an opportunity of meeting the
Most Worshipful Grand Master. I assure you I appreciate the
high honor of receiving you, not only as the highest officer
in Masonry in Massachusetts, but in a more personal sense
because of the affection that I have

The MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER. I think, after that very splendid introduction, I ought to make one of those salutations to the Illustrious Potentate, but I do appreciate his sentiments and his words. I am very glad to be here with my own Nobles tonight and to bring to you the greetings of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. I am proud that I am a Shriner, the same as every Noble that is here tonight. The work that the Shrine is doing is worth while and something which should make every one of us proud. I am very happy to be here and I know we will have a very pleasant evening.

The POTENTATE. Nobles, you may be seated. Now the hour has arrived for the election of your officers for the coming year, but before I do that I would be very much remiss if I did not take this opportunity to express to every officer of the divan and the Past Potentates and to each and every one of you, Nobles, my thanks for the marvelous co-operation and assistance that I have received during the past year as your Potentate. Whatever success I may have achieved I can assure you is due to the efforts of all of you.

You will gain from the financial statement of the officers that our membership on Dec. 31 was 10,724, the largest it has been for some years. We are also in a very fine financial condition. Everything is as fine as it could possible be in Aleppo Temple.

I venture to say without possible dispute, that

Aleppo Temple is probably the most powerful Temple there is ^{and} in the entire membership of the United States, ^ Canada, and we are exceedingly proud of that. So that is my swan song, and now we will proceed with the election of the officers.

The first is the office of Potentate of Aleppo Temple, and I await nominations.

Past Potentate LOMBARD. Illustrious Potentate, tonight marks the end of the reign of a legal dynasty. For six long years, lawyers and judges have ruled over and from this platform. No longer is it going to look like a court room to you. Tonight, we march along to a new era. At last, the lawyers and the judges step off the stage tonight, and in the entire line of officers there is not visible from the top to the bottom another lawyer or judge. Some may say, "Hurrah!" Some may say, "Thank God for that". You are not supposed to make noises with your voices. You are supposed to blow through those horns, or beat those drums. But somehow or other, I can feel a kindred spirit, and perhaps you likewise share the feeling of some members of the band.

I hardly know just how to begin. You are probably wishing that I knew how to end. I think I do. I will take a tip from the band, and try to get through in a few minutes, or perhaps a few seconds.

I had gathered here tonight before I came here about

fifteen pages dug up from various sources, which constituted a sort of biography of the incoming Potentate, but sensing the spirit of the meeting, I tore up all of those pages, except about a quarter of them.

I will not tax my memory in an effort to narrate to you all of the accomplishments of your new Potentate. I can employ what little brain I have to better advantage and more pecuniary advantage than merely the memorizing of a record which is well known to you all. I will say, however, and I quote from "Who's Who in the United States of America", that your incoming Potentate is president of the General ^{Fireproofing} ~~Fire~~ Corporation. He has been active in military affairs, was a member of the 26th Division, retiring in 1936 with the rank of Major. He has been active in many Associations. I will not take the time to detail that to you.

He is Past President of the Army and Navy Club, Past Commander of the oldest military organization in the Western Hemisphere, the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, and so on and so forth, through those twelve pages which I threw away when I came upon the stage.

May I just say, in a few words, that he has gained the heights of achievement in every field of endeavor in which he has entered. In short, he has been an outstanding success in the business world, and he will be an outstanding success as the head of Aleppo Temple. You have seen me in the white

robe on occasions as the High Priest and Prophet. While I will again assume that role without my white robe, my ritual will be brief.

I feel positive that you will be startled, amused, and most heartily surprised by the many novel and entertaining features which we will introduce for your entertainment, and the spirit of good fellowship that will accompany this organization, as well as the program in which the long line of Past Potentates have advanced.

At this time, I consider it an honor and a pleasure to nominate as your Potentate Lionel G. H. Palmer.

The POTENTATE. All right, Liomel. Our esteemed Recorder, Harvey B. Leggee, I understand, wants to second the nomination.

Noble LEGGEE. Illustrious Potentate and Nobles: I am not an orator, and I am not a lawyer. Last year I had the privilege of presenting Noble Palmer for the ^{office} of Chief Rabban. This year I withdrew, because I knew the lawyers would not have ^{after} another chance [^] this year.

I wish to second the nomination of Lionel G. H. Palmer for the office of Potentate for the ensuing year.

The POTENTATE. Are there ^{other} any [^] nominations?

[It was moved that nominations now be closed, the rules suspended, and that the Recorder be instructed to cast one vote for Lionel G. H. Palmer as Potentate of Aleppo Temple.

The POTENTATE. Nobles, you have heard the motion,

that the nominations be closed, that the rules be suspended, and that the Recorder be instructed to cast one ballot for Lionel G. H. Palmer as Potentate of Aleppo Temple for the coming year. Those in favor will say Aye. Those opposed? It is a unanimous vote, and I so declare it.

I have just received this ballot from the Recorder, by which you have been declared to have been unanimously elected as Potentate to succeed me. I assure you that I am quite happy when I quit and turn over the office to you. All the nice things said about you I am sure will come true.

You come to this office with the support of all the Past Potentates and officers, and the nobility. Good luck to you. We will do all we can to make your administration a great success.

Do you accept the office?

Arthur.

NOBLE PALMER. Thank you, Potentates come and Potentates go, but Aleppo Temple continues to prosper. The everyday business of the Temple is ably conducted by our good Recorder, Harvey Leggee, and our good Treasurer, Frank Morrill, so the most the new Potentate can do is to continue the organization and hope for its continued growth.

and I am coming to you
My predecessors have done a marvelous job, with some ideas, not only for the continued growth of the Temple, but also I want to see some activities among the nobility so that they can enjoy some of the good fellowship of the Shrine. I will

not attempt to go into details now, but will convey to you by means of the Aleppo Bulletin what I have in mind.

I do accept this responsibility. I thank you for electing me, and I hope to make good. Thank you.

The POTENTATE. Next comes the nomination to the office of Chief Rabban.

HARRY G. POLLARD. Illustrrious Potentate and Nobles. From now on most of us will be singing a little song. That shows no disrespect to the Potentate or the Chief Rabban.

In presenting a Noble for the office of Chief Rabban of Aleppo Temple, I am reminded, as a matter of fact, and I do not feel that I could elucidate all the wonderful offices that he ^{had} has_^ handed to him. The Potentate who has just been elected, I don't know how many offices he has had, but I say to you, give him time.

I have the great pleasure of presenting to you for the office of Chief Rabban of Aleppo Temple Noble Justin A. Duncan.

The POTENTATE. I understand our esteemed Treasurer would like to have an opportunity of seconding the nomination.

NOBLE MORRILL. Illustrrious Potentate and Nobles. It is a distinct honor to second the nomination of a man who has given distinguished service in Aleppo Temple for many years. I second the nomination of Justin A. Duncan as Chief Rabban of Aleppo Temple.

The POTENTATE. Are there any other nominations? If not, I will hear a motion from our good friend Harry G. Pollard.

HARRY G. POLLARD. I move that the nominations be closed, the rules be suspended, and that the Recorder be directed to cast one ballot for Justin A. Duncan as Chief Rabban for the coming year.

The POTENTATE. You have heard the motion that the nominations be closed, the rules be suspended and that the Recorder be instructed to cast one ballot for Justin A. Duncan as Chief Rabban. All in favor? Opposed? It is a unanimous vote. Will you kindly cast that ballot.

The ballot having been cast, I declare Noble Justin A. Duncan is elected to the office of Chief Rabban of Aleppo Temple for the coming year.

Do you accept this office?

NOBLE DUNCAN. Illustrious Potentate, I do accept this high office. I sincerely appreciate the confidence that my fellow Nobles have exhibited in me, and I sincerely pledge that I will do everything possible to assist the Illustrious Potentate in the coming year.

The POTENTATE. Now I will await nominations for the office of Assistant Rabban. I now recognize Noble Duncan.

NOBLE DUNCAN. Illustrious Potentate, it is my happy privilege to have the honor of presenting to the nobility the name of Noble Wallace D. Riddell for the office of Assistant

Rabban for the ensuing year.

The POTENTATE. Is the nomination seconded? I recognize
Illustrious Past Potentate Wilson approaching the East.

Past Potentate WILSON. When I hear these business men
talking about getting rid of the lawyers, if they are not careful
they will need some help when ^{they} are looking for someone to second
the nomination. I am very happy to second the nomination
of Noble Riddell for the office of Assistant Rabban.

I move that the nominations be closed, the rules suspended,
and that the Recorder cast one vote for Wallace D. Riddell for
the office of Assistant Rabban.

The POTENTATE. Nobles, you have heard the motion that the
nominations be closed, rules suspended, and that the Recorder
be instructed to cast one ballot for the office of Assistant
Rabban. Those in favor say Aye? Those opposed?

It is a unanimous vote.

The ballot having been cast, I declare Noble Riddell
elected as Assistant Rabban. Noble Riddell, do you
accept this office?

Noble RIDDELL. Illustrious Potentate, I do accept the
office, and I thank the Nobility.

The POTENTATE. The next office is High Priest and Prophet.

Past Potentate WILSON. If we continue like this, we will
see the show at 8 o'clock.

I nominate for the office of High Priest and Prophet, the

Eminent Commander of Boston Commandery, Noble Frank B. Ellis.

Past Potentate LOMBARD. I second the nomination, and I move that nominations be closed, the rule suspended, and that the Recorder be instructed to cast one ballot for Noble Ellis.

The POTENTATE. It is moved that the nominations be closed, rule suspended, and that the Recorder be instructed to cast one vote for the office. Those in favor say Aye? Those opposed No.

It is a unanimous vote, and I declare Frank B. Ellis elected to the high office of High Priest and Prophet.

Noble Ellis, do you accept this office?

NOBLE ELLIS. Illustrious Potentate and Nobles, I do accept the office and I thank you, Nobles.

The POTENTATE. I await nominations for the office of Oriental Guide.

Past Potentate WILSON. Illustrious Sir, for Oriental Guide I nominate N. Russell Lynn. The fact that I appointed him in line has obviated the necessity for any further word as to what I think of him.

The POTENTATE. Does anybody second the nomination?

Noble LEGGEE. Illustrious Potentate, it is a great pleasure of N. Russell Lynn for Oriental Guide to second the nomination, for the coming year. I move that nominations be closed, rules suspended and that the Recorder cast one ballot of Noble Lynn for the office of Oriental Guide for the coming year.

The POTENTATE. The motion has been made that nominations

be closed, rules suspended, and the Recorder be instructed to cast one vote for N. Russell Lynn for Oriental Guide. Those in favor of that motion will say Aye. Opposed? It is a unanimous vote, and I declare N. Russell Lynn elected to the office of Oriental Guide for the ensuing year.

Noble Lynn, do you accept that office?

Noble LYNN. Illustrious Sir and Nobles, I do accept.

Thanks a million.

The POTENTATE. Now, I await nominations for the office of Treasurer of Aleppo Temple.

Noble LEGGEE. For the past five years, I have had the privilege of nominating the Treasurer of Aleppo Temple. This year, it is a great pleasure to nominate Frank W. Morrill as Treasurer of Aleppo Temple for the ensuing year.

Past Potentate LOMBARD. It is my pleasure to second the nomination of Frank W. Morrill as Treasurer of Aleppo Temple. I move that nominations be closed, rules suspended, and that the Recorder be instructed to cast one ballot for the ensuing year.

[The motion was seconded.]

The POTENTATE. You have heard the motion that nominations be closed, rules suspended, and that the Recorder be instructed to cast one ballot for Frank W. Morrill for the office of Treasurer of Aleppo Temple. Those in favor say Aye. Those opposed No. It is a vote and he is elected. I declare

Frank W. Morrill to be elected Treasurer of Aleppo Temple.

Frank, do you accept this office for another year?

Noble MORRILL. I do accept. Thank you.

The POTENTATE. I now await nominations for the office of Recorder of Aleppo Temple.

Past Potentate LOMBARD. This man has served longer than anyone on this platform. This spring he will complete 25 years, a quarter of a century in the Recorder's office in one capacity or another. He handled \$54,000 in the month of December.

Harvey has a big job, and I wish the time would permit me to say a few things about Harvey. He should have a few verbal bouquets tossed in his direction, but somehow or other, I think that will be recorded in Aleppo News, because of his 25th anniversary, but let him keep his hands off that column, although he is editor of Aleppo News. I will pass it, and you can read it in the News, when you are not on your toes waiting for the girls to pass down the aisle. It is a great pleasure to make the nomination, and if one of these young ladies should make the nomination, I dare say she would receive your concentrated attention.

However, it is with a great deal of pleasure that I nominate for the office of Recorder your friend and my friend and everybody else's friend, Harvey B. Leggee.

Noble RIDDELL. Illustrious Potentate, it is a great pleasure to second the nomination to the office of Recorder of

Aleppo Temple of the "little giant", Harvey B. Leggee.

The POTENTATE. Before I put this motion to you, I want to state here, publicly, the great debt of gratitude that not only I, but every previous Potentate preceding me owes to the man you have just nominated. I think he has been a wonderful source of strength to me. There is nothing I could do that would be more efficient. I am mighty happy to have had so able and efficient an officer as I have had.

The motion has been duly made and seconded that the Treasurer, Frank W. Morrill, be ordered and instructed to cast one ballot, that nominations shall be closed and rules suspended. Those in favor of that will say Aye. Opposed No. It is a vote.

You have duly elected Harvey B. Leggee Recorder of Aleppo Temple for the ensuing year. Noble Leggee, do you accept the office?

Noble LEGGEE. Illustrious Potentate and Nobles. Now that I have reached my maturity, the only thing I can say is that I have worked harder as Recorder than you boys appreciate. I have enjoyed it, and if you boys want it, I would like to be Recorder at least for the coming year. I thank you for having elected me.

The POTENTATE. Now we come to the trustees of the permanent Fund. Past Potentate McKenzie's term expires this year. I await nominations.

Noble MORRILL. It is a great pleasure for me to place in nomination the name of Clarence J. McKenzie to serve as trustee of the Permanent Fund for the coming three years.

Noble LEGGEE. It is a great pleasure to second the nomination of Noble Clarence J. McKenzie as trustee of the Permanent Fund for the term of three years. I move that nominations be closed, the rules suspended, and that the Recorder be instructed to cast one ballot for Clarence J. McKenzie as trustee of the Permanent Fund for three years.

The POTENTATE. Nobles, you have heard the motion. Those in favor say Aye. Those opposed No. It is a vote.

I have here before me a ballot cast by the Recorder for Clarence J. McKenzie as trustee of the Permanent Fund for a period of three years. I declare him duly elected.

Now comes the time for the election of your representatives to the Imperial Council. At the present time, we have two representatives who are emeritus, our oldest living Past Potentate, Walter Morrison, and we have Judge Wilson of the Imperial Divan, Second Ceremonial Master, who goes as a representative to the Imperial Council. So I will read these names: Arthur A. Sondheim, Lionel G. H. Palmer, Justin Duncan, and Willard E. Lombard, as your representatives to the Imperial Council for the year 1946.

It has been moved and seconded that the nominations be closed, the rules suspended, and that the list I have read be

nade representatives to the Imperial Council. Those in favor say Aye. Those opposed? It is a unanimous vote and I declare Walter W. Morrison, Justin A. Duncan, Willard E. Lombard, and Arthur A. Sondheim as representatives fo the Imperial Council.

Now, we haven't any other officers to be elected, and the time now approaches for the installation of officers. Will the installing officer kindly step up to the mike, and perform that arduous installation.

Past Potentate LOMBARD. I am going to install the Potentate. Signify by your applause, if you approve of the installation ceremony.

The POTENTATE. Illustrious Potentate Palmer, will you kindly approach. I can assure you, Illustrious Sir, it is a very happy moment for me in relinquishing the office of Potentate of Aleppo Temple, and to go to work and place upon your head this fez signifying that you are now Potentate of Aleppo Temple. God bless you and good luck to you.

[The other officers were duly installed.]

Most Worshipful GRAND MASTER. I have the great pleasure to present you with a Past Potentate Jewjewel. I know that you will wear it with great pleasure. You have been an honor to Aleppo the past year, and I think you have earned this jewel, which you will wear. It is a beautiful jewel. I know you will wear it with great honor to yourself and to Aleppo Temple.

I also have the pleasure on behalf of your friends to present you with this diamond ring which they have purchased for you, and asked me to present to you at this time. I have the names accompanying this ring, and I know that you will thank them personally later. They are all very proud of you, Arthur, and I know you are proud to be their friend, because one thing, in the Shrine we make friends readily and that is just about as it has been, and I now present to you this diamond ring which I know you will wear with a great deal of pleasure.

Past Potentate SONDHEIM. Most Worshipful Grand Master, one year ago I had the distinguished honor conferred upon me of having the Grand Master present me with the fez and insignia of my office. Tonight I have been honored by him in pinning on my breast the jewel of a Past Potentate, and then he comes and presents me with this beautiful diamond ring, which evidently was purchased by subscription by some of the Nobility of Aleppo Temple.

Subscriptions for such a gift to be made to me I can truthfully say I have not had anything to do with. I want you to believe it. It wasn't until about seven or eight days ago I happened to see that such a letter had been sent out, and had I known it, I can assure you, my fellow Shriners, I would not have assented to it. Yet I stand here before you with this beautiful gift, and I certainly would be without heart if I did not say I am deeply gratified to have this beautiful gift

bestowed upon me. It is something to receive the commendation of the Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, and it is another thing to receive the commendation of your fellow Nobles for your efforts during the past year and to receive their approbation of what service you have rendered in behalf of the Nobility of Aleppo Temple. So I can truthfully say to you, my dear fellow Shriners, I am deeply gratified, and I pray that my future conduct will be satisfactory and such as to merit your respect and esteem. I thank you.

Potentate BARNARD. Anah Temple of Bangor, Maine at this time extends to your newly elected Potentate most hearty congratulations, and it is my honor and pleasure at this time to present to him honorary membership in that Temple, which I trust he will accept.

The POTENTATE. I want to assure the Potentate of Anah Temple that I heartily appreciate this my first greeting as a Past Potentate. I am going to take great pleasure in accepting this.

[The business meeting was closed at 7.55 p.m.]